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CHESTERTON RURAL DISTRICT

in the

Administrative County of Cambridge

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# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for

---

1937

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To the Chairman and Members  
of the  
Chesterton Rural District Council.

LADIES & GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present for your consideration my Annual Report for the year 1937 on the Health, Sanitary Conditions, and Vital Statistics of the Chesterton Rural District. The Report is an Ordinary one, and is drawn up in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health as specified in Circular 1650 dated October 4th, 1937.

ARTHUR MORGAN,  
Medical Officer of Health.

May 9th, 1938.

## GENERAL STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area	...	...	...	...	...	111,692	acres
Estimated resident population, mid-1937	...	...	...	...	...	30,930	
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1937) according to the Rate Books	...	...	...	...	...	9,850	
Number of Parishes	...	...	...	...	...	53	
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£107,766	
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£390	

The district is agricultural in character and the principal occupations are those associated with farming, fruit growing, jam making, etc.

With the exception of the Jam Factory at Histon, there are no large industrial works in the district.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

### Live Births:—

		Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	...	391	202	189
Illegitimate	...	19	10	9
Total	...	410	212	198
Birth Rate per thousand of the estimated resident population		1935 12.6	1936 14.0	1937 13.2
Birth Rate per thousand population (England and Wales)		14.7	14.8	14.9

### Still Births:—

		Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	...	14	6	8
Illegitimate	...	1	1	—
Rate per thousand total (live and still) Births	...	1935 30.0	1936 33.4	1937 35.3

		Total.	Male.	Female.
Deaths	...	378	188	190
Death Rate per thousand of the estimated resident population uncorrected for age and sex distribution	...	1935 11.6	1936 12.5	1937 12.2
Corrected Death Rate	...	9.0	9.7	9.5
Death Rate per thousand population (England and Wales)		11.7	12.7	12.4

Deaths from puerperal causes :—	2	Rate per thousand total (live and still) births		
(a) Puerperal Sepsis	2.5	1935	1936	1937
(b) Other puerperal causes	—	—	2.2	4.7

Number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age :—

	Total.	Male.	Female.
Legitimate	17	10	7
Illegitimate	2	1	1
Totals	19	11	8

Death Rate of infants under 1 year of age :—

	1935	1936	1937
(a) All infants per thousand live births	30.9	36.9	46.3
(b) Legitimate infants per thousand legitimate live births	30.9	37.9	43.4
(c) Illegitimate infants per thousand illegitimate live births	Nil	90.9	105.3
Deaths from measles (all ages)	Nil	1	Nil
Deaths from whooping cough (all ages)	Nil	1	1
Deaths from diarrhoea (under two years of age)	1	2	1
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	63	63	61

#### Classification of Deaths under Age Groups.

	Male.	Female.	Total.
Under 1 year	11	8	19
1 and under 2	1	1	2
2 " " 5	1	1	2
5 " " 15	1	1	2
15 " " 25	6	0	6
25 " " 35	5	8	13
35 " " 45	6	13	19
45 " " 55	16	15	31
55 " " 65	23	33	56
65 " " 75	53	41	94
75 and over	65	69	134
Totals	188	190	378

## CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS ACCORDING TO CAUSE AND SEX 1937

Causes of Death.	Males.	Females.	Totals.
Typhoid Fever, etc.	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	1	—	1
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Influenza	7	9	16
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	5	3	8
Other Tuberculous Diseases	2	2	4
Syphilis	1	—	1
General Paralysis of the Insane, etc.	—	1	1
Cancer, Malignant Disease	21	40	61
Diabetes	4	4	8
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	12	7	19
Heart Disease	47	39	86
Aneurysm	1	—	1
Other Circulatory Diseases	10	17	27
Bronchitis	4	10	14
Pneumonia (all forms)	8	5	13
Other Respiratory Diseases	3	2	5
Peptic Ulcer	6	1	7
Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	1	1	2
Appendicitis	2	—	2
Cirrhosis of Liver, etc.	—	1	1
Other Diseases of Liver, etc.	1	3	4
Other Digestive Diseases	6	5	11
Nephritis	6	5	11
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—	—
Other Puerperal Causes	—	2	2
Congenital Causes, etc.	7	4	11
Senility	9	11	20
Suicide	4	1	5
Other Violence	7	5	12
Other Defined Causes	12	11	23
Ill-defined Causes	1	1	2
Totals	188	190	378

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

### PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY :—

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.** A whole time officer who also acts for the two other Rural Districts in this County.

**Sanitary Inspectors :—**The normal staff consists of a Chief Sanitary Inspector, and two other Inspectors, qualified by Examination.

Mr. Newman, Senior Inspector, holds the special Certificate for Meat and other Foods. Mr. P. King was appointed Junior Sanitary Inspector in May, 1937.

### Laboratory Facilities :—

Chemical analyses of water, etc., are made by the Public Analyst at Cambridge. Specimens for bacteriological examination are sent to Dr. W. H. Harvey, Green Street, Cambridge. Samples of milk for the bacterial count are dealt with at the Agricultural Department of the University of Cambridge.

### Ambulance Facilities :—

A motor ambulance is provided by the District Council in connection with the Isolation Hospital at Oakington, and is available for the transport of cases of infectious disease. The services of the Red Cross or Police ambulances at Cambridge can be obtained when required for cases of accident or ordinary illness. The facilities provided are adequate.

Nursing in the home

Clinics and treatment centres

} No alteration.

### Hospitals :—

The only hospitals in the district are the Mental Hospital at Fulbourn and the Isolation Hospital at Oakington. So far as general hospitals are concerned, Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, deals with practically all the cases from this district.

The Council's proposal to extend their isolation hospital at Oakington has been abandoned the Ministry of Health having approved a scheme submitted by the County Council, under which cases of infectious diseases from this district are to be treated at the Cambridge Borough Isolation Hospital. The Oakington Hospital was closed in February, 1938.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

### WATER SUPPLY:—

During 1936 piped water supplies were provided for the Parishes of Boxworth, Fen Drayton (part of), Harston, Milton, Over, Little Shelford, and Stapleford.

### OAKINGTON AND LITTLE WILBRAHAM.

During the present year (1937) piped supplies have been provided for these parishes. Particulars of these supplies are given in the Annual Report for 1936.

### AT COTON.

A new well has been sunk in Cambridge Lane. The water is obtained from a spring and conveyed to the well by pipes.

### HISTON.

The Water Co.'s Main has been extended up the Cottenham Road to provide for development.

### FEN DITTON.

The supply from the Public Pump opposite the Blue Lion was found to be unsatisfactory. A stand pipe from the Water Company's Main has been provided.

### COTTONHAM.

An additional well has been sunk at Cottenham Water Works making a total of four wells.

### TEVERSHAM.

The question of supplying this parish by an extension of the Cambridge Water Company's Main is under consideration.

### LONGSTANTON ST. MICHAEL. Population 80.

The present supply is from shallow wells liable to pollution, and a report indicating the need for an improved supply was submitted to the Council in 1936.

The question of a joint supply for the parishes of Longstanton All Saints and St. Michael is under consideration.

Improved supplies are also needed in the following parishes:—

Parish	Population
Croxton	190
Eltisley	300
Graveley	109
Papworth St. Agnes	103
Caldecote	179
Hardwick	127

The action to be taken depends on the result of the negotiations for taking over the East Hunts. Water Co.

### GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

It is interesting to note that 28 of the parishes in this district, having a population of 22,783 persons, being 75.0 per cent. of the total population of the district, are supplied with water by means of a piped service.

In twelve other parishes having a population of 4,927, being 16 per cent. of the total population, deep public wells have been provided.

Public water supplies of good quality are available in 40 parishes representing 91 per cent. of the population of the district.

The remaining 13 small parishes comprise only 9.0 per cent. of the population of the district. Six of these, with a population of only 1,888 (6.0 per cent. of the whole district), are supplied from shallow public wells mainly in the chalk or gravel. The other seven small parishes, comprising only 3 per cent. of the total population, are supplied by private wells.

Water supply.	No. of Parishes	Population per cent. of whole district
Cambridge Water Co.	13	42.5
East Hunts. Water Co.	8	11.5
Other Water Works ...	7	21.0
Total with piped service	28	75.0
Deep Public Wells ...	12	16.0
Shallow Public Wells ...	6	6.0
Private sources ...	7	3.0
	53	100.0

### Samples of Water taken for Analysis during the Year.

49 samples have been taken during the year, 19 of which were found to be unfit for drinking purposes as follows:—

Parish.	Action taken.
Barton 1	Well improved.
Bourn 2	Well improved.
Comberton 1	Well improved.
Coton 3	New Public Well sunk.
Dry Drayton 1	Defects remedied.
Fen Ditton 1	Supplied by Cambridge Water Co.
Haslingfield 1	Well improved. [Standpipe
Harston 1	Supplied from New Waterworks.
Histon 1	Company's main extended.
Oakington 2	Public supply now available.
Quy 3	New Bored Well sunk.
Gt. Shelford 1	Company's Water laid on.
Teversham 1	Piped supply under consideration.

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE:—

There is a system of Sewerage and Sewage disposal at Papworth Everard. At Histon there are private Sewage disposal works in connection with the large Jam Factory. At Girton the College and the Wellbrook Laundry each have treatment works. With these exceptions there are no sewerage or sewage disposal works in the district. A new 12 in. drain has been laid at Broad Lane, Cottenham.

Schemes for seweraging the parishes of Gt. Shelford, Stapleford, Histon, Impington and Girton have been submitted to the Ministry and a Public Inquiry was held in 1937.

## SCHOOLS:—

The 50 schools have been inspected from time to time, and, when necessary, suggestions made with regard to improvements in sanitary conditions. 20 have a piped water supply, a few have water closets, but generally pail closets are in use.

## CLOSET ACCOMMODATION:—

Most of the new houses are provided with Water Closets, and improved pail closets have taken the place of the old pit privies. Very few of the latter now remain. In one parish (Waterbeach) a scheme for emptying pail closets has been in operation for a number of years.

## SCAVENGING:—

In recent years a certain amount of progress has been made with regard to the collection and disposal of House Refuse and 20 parishes have now some form of collection.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR FROM JANUARY 1ST TO DECEMBER 31ST.

		1936.	1937.
1.	Complaints received	197	246
2.	Inspections recorded	6264	3930
3.	Notices served (Statutory)	103	106
4.	Informal notices	359	159
5.	Legal Proceedings (successful)	2	3
6.	Slaughter-house Inspections	434	824
7.	Cowshed Inspections	395	60
8.	Bakehouse Inspections	75	60
9.	Houses Inspected under the Housing Acts	202	196
10.	Houses placed in habitable repair	66	59
11.	“ Demolition Orders made	50	49
12.	“ Demolished	50	88
13.	“ Overcrowding abated	28	15
14.	Cases removed to Hospitals	65	54
15.	Houses disinfected	66	65
16.	New Houses dealt with re Water Supply	192	281
17.	Improved Water Supplies to existing houses	444	281
18.	Improved Closet Accommodation provided	25	10
19.	House drains newly laid or improved	25	21
20.	Samples of Water Taken	30	49
21.	Sundry nuisances abated	17	25

## SHOPS ACT, 1934:—

This Act came into operation on 30th December, 1934. The parts administered by the District Council are certain subsections of sections 10 dealing with the provision of sanitary conveniences, ventilation, lighting, and warming.

The 287 shops in the District have been inspected and the results recorded. More than half of the shops are in conjunction with houses and the available sanitary conveniences serve both. Steps are taken to ensure that the provisions of the Act are complied with.

No Certificates of Exemption from the provision of Sanitary Conveniences have been issued during the year.

## HOUSING.

Number of houses erected during the year:—

(a) By the District Council	...	...	...	81
(b) By Private Enterprise	...	...	...	200
Total	...	...	...	281

NOTE.—The total number of houses built by the District Council under the 1919 and subsequent Housing Acts is 1,145.

Summary of action taken under the Housing Act of 1930:—

Total number of demolition orders made	...	...	355
Number of closing orders made	...	...	5
Total number of other user undertakings accepted	...	...	53
Total number of houses demolished	...	...	262
Number of houses awaiting demolition	...	...	93

These figures include 49 demolition orders made and 88 houses that were demolished during 1937.

Details of the action taken under the housing Acts are given in a Tabular Statement.

### 1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	109
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	196
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	109
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	196
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	49
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	59

**2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices :—**

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers.

59

**3. Action under Statutory Powers.**

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ...
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—
  - (a) By owners ... ... ...
  - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—
  - (a) By owners ... ... ...
  - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners ...

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made ... ...
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders ... ... ...

49

88

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

- (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made
- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... ... ...

—

—

**HOUSING ACT, 1936 PART IV.—(OVERCROWDING).**

**Overcrowding :—**

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ... ... ... ...

23

(ii) Number of families dwelling therein ... ...

23

(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein ... ...

176

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... ... ... ...

8

(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... ... ... ...

15

(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases ...

101

(d) Cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded ... ... ... ...

Nil

(e) The Survey in 1936 disclosed 58 overcrowded houses having 435 occupants. During 1937 a further 8 cases occurred making a total of 66 houses with 493 occupants, of these, 43 cases with 317 occupants have been abated during 1936 and 1937 leaving 23 cases with 176 occupants unabated. The Council have a building scheme in progress to provide accommodation for 23 cases.

#### **HOUSING RURAL WORKERS ACT 1926.**

Grants under this Act amounting to £2,802 have been promised in respect of 46 Dwellings. Of this amount £1,867 has been paid in respect of 30 Houses to December, 1937.

The provisions of this Act are brought to the notice of owners who are unable to improve their cottages without financial assistance.

# HOUSING TABLE, 1937.

PARISHES	Council Houses Erected			Total Action since the passing of the Housing Act, 1930									
	1919 and 1924 Acts		1930 Act	Demolition Orders made		Closing Orders		Other Use Orders		Total Occupants Concerned	Persons Displaced to Dec. 37	Houses Demolished	Awaiting Demolition
Barton ...	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	3	—	—	—
Bourn ...	16	4	—	7	—	—	—	1	15	15	7	—	—
Boxworth ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Caldecote ...	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	2	4
Caxton ...	4	4	6	—	—	—	—	—	16	16	—	—	—
Childerley ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Comberton ...	32	4	3	—	—	—	—	1	13	13	1	—	2
Conington ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Coton ...	33	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	16	16	7	—	—
Cottenham ...	56	16	38	—	—	—	—	6	116	109	37	—	1
Croxton ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dry Drayton ...	20	—	3	—	1	—	—	1	17	15	2	—	1
Elsworth ...	10	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	2	2
Eltisley ...	9	2	14	—	—	—	—	—	31	20	4	—	10
Fen Ditton ...	22	4	8	—	1	—	—	1	52	50	6	2	2
Fen Drayton ...	—	6	10	—	—	—	—	—	6	6	8	2	2
Fulbourn ...	66	8	24	—	2	—	—	—	85	75	8	—	16
Girton ...	36	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	3	—	—	—
Grantchester ...	20	4	7	—	—	—	—	3	21	21	7	—	—
Graveley ...	6	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Hardwick ...	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Harlton ...	16	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	21	21	6	—	—
Harston ...	38	4	8	—	—	—	—	—	20	20	8	—	—
Haslingfield ...	16	4	5	—	—	—	—	—	19	19	4	—	1
Hauxton ...	8	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	17	12	1	—	—
Histon ...	78	12	12	—	—	—	—	6	46	44	11	—	1
Horningley ...	6	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	7	6	2	—	—
Impington ...	30	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	38	38	9	—	—
Knapwell ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Landbeach ...	26	4	7	—	—	—	—	2	26	23	7	—	—
Lolworth ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	7	7	—	—	—
Longstanton All Saints ...	22	—	11	—	—	—	—	1	34	34	9	2	—
Longstanton S. Michael ...	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Madingey ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Milton ...	28	—	8	—	—	—	—	2	22	18	6	2	—
Newton ...	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	3
Oakington ...	22	10	19	—	—	—	—	—	61	58	16	3	—
Over ...	2	4	10	—	—	—	—	7	13	11	4	6	—
Papworth Everard ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Papworth St. Agnes ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rampton ...	8	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	13	13	4	—	1
Shelford, Great ...	72	3	11	—	—	—	—	1	17	17	11	—	—
Shelford, Little ...	30	2	9	—	—	—	—	—	28	28	7	2	—
Stapleford ...	20	—	7	—	—	—	—	1	15	8	3	4	—
Stow-cum-Quy ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	—	—
Swavesey ...	14	4	8	—	—	—	—	3	15	14	5	5	3
Teversham ...	28	4	7	—	—	—	—	—	11	9	—	2	—
Toft ...	18	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	18	5	—	5	—
Waterbeach ...	44	12	25	—	—	—	—	—	70	52	9	16	—
Westwick ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wilbraham, Great ...	20	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	27	26	7	1	—
Wilbraham, Little ...	4	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	15	15	3	—	—
Willingham ...	86	8	31	—	—	—	—	3	87	77	27	4	—
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1018</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>1047</b>	<b>940</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>93</b>				

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

### MILK SUPPLY:—

Number of cowkeepers or purveyors of milk on the Register:—

(a) Wholesale producers	...	...	...	...	133
(b) Retail producers	...	...	...	...	148
(d) Retailers only	...	...	...	...	13
(e) Wholesalers only	...	...	...	...	1
(f) Wholesalers and retailers	...	...	...	...	1
<b>Total</b>	...	...	...	...	<b>296</b>

Approximate number of cows kept—2,900.

Included in the above total are 77 accredited milk producers and 8 having T.T. licences, an increase of 5 accredited and 2 T.T. licences.

Five new cowsheds have been erected and a number of improvements have been made. The improvements consisted mainly of the provision of new floors, new cooling sheds, and facilities for sterilising. The increase in the number of accredited producers is an indication of progress in the direction of cleaner milk. Every help is afforded to milk producers who are anxious to improve the conditions under which milk is produced.

In connection with an inquiry into the cause of an outbreak of enteritis in Cambridge which appeared to be associated with a certain dairy in this district, it was arranged for all the milk from this source to be pasteurised. Samples of milk were taken from each of the 13 cows in question and on bacteriological examination the Morgan Bacillus was detected in the sample from one cow. The cow was isolated from the herd, and the use of its milk for human consumption discontinued.

### MEAT AND OTHER FOODS:—

Number of Slaughterhouses on the Register:—

(a) Licensed	...	...	...	...	...	7
(b) Registered	...	...	...	...	...	25
(c) Knackers' Yards	...	...	...	...	...	2
<b>Total</b>	...	...	...	...	...	<b>34</b>

One new knackery has been established at Willingham.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933:—

(a) Licences to slaughtermen renewed	...	...	...	57
(b) New Licences granted	...	...	...	1
(c) Total on Register	...	...	...	58

868 visits were paid to Slaughterhouses and Food Premises.

One butcher was prosecuted for having diseased meat in his possession for purposes of sale. He was fined £20 and costs.

## CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle	Sheep	Pigs
Carcases Inspected	162	131	356
<b>Whole Carcases condemned</b>			
All diseases except Tuberculosis	2	—	—
Tuberculosis	4	—	2
<b>Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned</b>			
All diseases except Tuberculosis	8	10	4
Tuberculosis	13	—	22
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	10	—	7
Percentage affected with other diseases	6	7	1

With one or two exceptions the condition and management of the Slaughterhouses in the District is satisfactory. It can be said that practically no slaughtering on a wholesale scale is carried on in the District, butchers merely killing enough for distribution in their own and adjoining parishes, and the amount of meat which finds its way out of the District is small.

The use of one Licensed Slaughterhouse has been discontinued during the year.

### BAKEHOUSES:—

Number	...	...	...	...	31
Inspections made	...	...	...	...	60

Factories and Workshops Act:—The usual notices calling attention to the requirements of this Act as regards periodical limewashing were sent out in April and October. They were all complied with. In no instance was it necessary to issue a statutory notice.

### UNSOULD FOOD:—

480 quarters of damaged maize were released by the Port of London Sanitary Authorities and sent to this district on the condition that none of it was used for human food. The destination and proposed use was verified.

### ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

This district appears to be particularly free from infestation of this kind, and very few complaints are received. Occasionally houses occupied by old and infirm persons are found to be affected. Prompt action is taken in all cases coming to the notice of the Local Authority.

## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The distribution and incidence of the notifiable diseases is shown in the following tabular statements:—

Table I. Incidence of Notifiable diseases in Parishes.

Parish	Scarlet fever	Diphtheria	Typhoid Fever	Pneumonia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Puerperal Pyrexia	Erysipelas	Totals
Bourn	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Boxworth	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Caldecote	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Childerley	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Cottenham	7	—	2	6	—	—	2	18
Elsworth	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Eltisley	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Fen Ditton	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Fen Drayton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Girton	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Hardwick	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Harston	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Haslingfield	14	—	—	1	—	—	—	15
Histon	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Impington	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Longstanton A. S.	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Milton	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Newton	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Oakington	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Over	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Papworth Ev.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Shelford, Gt.	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	4
Lt.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Toft	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Waterbeach	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	3
Wilbraham, Lt.	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Willingham	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	5
<b>Totals</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>81</b>

Table II. Monthly Incidence.

Month	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Typhoid Fever	Pneumonia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Puerperal Pyrexia	Erysipelas	Totals
January	5	—	—	4	—	1	1	11
February	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	4
March	2	—	—	1	—	—	2	5
April	1	—	2	—	1	—	2	6
May	1	—	—	2	—	—	1	4
June	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	9
July	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
August	6	—	1	1	—	—	—	8
September	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	4
October	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	5
November	9	—	—	4	—	1	1	15
December	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	3
Totals	48	—	3	18	1	3	8	81

Table III. Analysis under Age Groups.

Disease	Total cases notified	At Ages—Years												Admitted Hospital	Deaths
		.1	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	10.	15.	20.	35.	45.	65.		
Scarlet Fever	48	—	—	1	1	4	27	11	2	1	1	—	—	45	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Para Typhoid	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	3	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	2	—
Pneumonia	18	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	6	9	—	13
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	1	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Totals	81	2	—	1	2	4	27	12	2	8	1	12	10	52	13

The 3 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia include 1 case of Puerperal Fever.

Practically all the cases of scarlet fever were of a mild type presenting no special complications. The total number reported is the lowest recorded for the last ten years and is thirty below the average for that period. Forty-five of the cases were admitted to the Council's Isolation Hospital at Oakington and one was transferred from there to the Cambridge Borough Isolation Hospital for operation. The advisability of the routine treatment of these mild cases in hospital is open to question. Given suitable home conditions there is no doubt but that they do well in their own homes. It must be borne in mind, however, that the majority of cases occur amongst the working class portion of the population and rarely are adequate facilities available in the home. The three cases of typhoid fever (Cottenham 2, Histon 1) were admitted to Addenbrooke's Hospital. In spite of careful investigation the origin of the infection remained obscure and did not appear to be associated with either water or milk supplies. One case of erysipelas, one of ophthalmia neonatorum, one of puerperal fever and one of puerperal pyrexia were also admitted to Addenbrooke's Hospital. It will be noted that no cases of diphtheria have been reported. One doubtful case was sent to the Borough Isolation Hospital but the diagnosis was not confirmed. This is the first year that no case of diphtheria has occurred in this district since the coming into operation of the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act 1889, 48 years ago.

**NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES:**—Influenza has been fairly prevalent particularly during the first few months of the year, and the mortality (16 deaths) is somewhat above the average of 12 for the past few years. Influenza was stated to be a contributory cause in six of the eighteen cases of pneumonia notified. Notifications were received from the head teachers of schools relating to 482 children excluded either on account of illness or home infection. The majority were due to mumps, whooping cough, measles or chicken-pox. One case of measles was admitted to the Borough Isolation Hospital.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

### New cases and Mortality during 1937.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non- Respiratory		Respiratory		Non- Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...							
1	...							1
5	...		1		2			1
15	...	3	3	1	3	2		
25	...	1	2		1	1	1	
35	...	2				1	1	
45	...	1	1			1		1
55	...	2						1
65 and upwards						1		
Totals	...	9	6	1	6	5	3	2
								2

No action has been called for either under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925 (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade), or under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925, or Section 132 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (relating to the compulsory removal to a hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis).

### FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Number of Factories with more than 40 persons employed	...	3
"    " Workshops and Workplaces	...	169
Inspections of Factories	...	9
"    " Workshops	...	201
Written Notices	...	62
Defects Found	..	—
Outworkers' Lists Received	...	1
Infected Premises	...	None

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